



Fact Sheet

USS Lead Refinery, East Chicago, Indiana

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has prepared this fact sheet to inform the public of the process involved in issuing a post-closure permit.

The Solid Waste Disposal Act, commonly known as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) was passed in 1976. This allowed for the regulation of the management of hazardous waste. In the State of Indiana, the IDEM is authorized by the Indiana Environmental Statutes, IC 13-22, to administer the hazardous waste permit program and related hazardous waste management requirements. Any facility which treats, stores, and/or disposes of hazardous waste in the State of Indiana is required to obtain a final hazardous waste management permit. Since U.S.S. Lead Refinery has certified closure, and wastes remain on-site, a post-closure permit is utilized to stipulate the requirements for maintaining and monitoring this closed land disposal unit. In addition, any hazardous waste facility receiving a permit is required to provide corrective action for all releases of hazardous waste or of hazardous waste constituents from any solid waste management unit on-site.

Facility Description

U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc., (USS Lead) operated as a copper production facility from the early 1900's until it became a secondary lead smelter from the early 1970's until operations ceased in December 1985. A Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU) was created to contain remediation wastes associated with corrective action and to facilitate closure of several hazardous waste piles. For regulatory purposes, the CAMU functions as

a hazardous waste land disposal unit, and therefore must comply with post-closure monitoring requirements. USS Lead is located in East Chicago, Indiana.

Draft Permit Conditions Summary

I. Standard Conditions: These conditions are of a general nature and are required for all facilities that manage hazardous waste under a RCRA permit.

II. General Facility Conditions: These conditions are also of a general nature and required for all facilities that manage hazardous waste under a RCRA permit.

III. Landfill Conditions: These conditions contain information on maintenance, slope, run-off, and other physical characteristics of the site.

IV. Corrective Action Conditions: These conditions provide for the investigation and remediation of any releases from a Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU) or area of concern (AOC). These conditions also require owners and operators to provide information, including sampling, to the IDEM to support whether or not a release has occurred.

V. Groundwater Monitoring Conditions: These are specific regulations the facility must follow that are applicable to a groundwater monitoring plan. Included in this section are well descriptions, placement, and characteristics as well as regulatory provisions for the monitoring plan.

VI. Compliance Schedule Conditions: These conditions specify a compliance

schedule leading to compliance with the Indiana Hazardous Waste Rules.

Draft Permit Attachments

Attachment A - Facility Description: This attachment provides general information of the site and surrounding land.

Attachment B - Post-Closure Inspection Requirements: This attachment outlines inspections which must be performed to inspect for malfunctions and deterioration, operator error, and discharges which may be causing or lead to a release to the environment or threaten human health.

Attachment C - Post-Closure Plan: This attachment outlines the provisions necessary during the post-closure care period to ensure that the site is maintained for at least thirty (30) years. The financial assurance information is also found here.

Attachment D - Ground Water Monitoring: This attachment details the types of monitoring that are implemented by the facility and the way the information is collected. The plan details the following: 1). Development of a list of groundwater indicator parameters and monitoring constituents used to indicate a release from the regulated unit(s). 2). Establishment of sampling and statistical analysis requirements to determine if a release has occurred. 3). Establishment of additional requirements if a statistically significant release occurs.

Attachment E - Corrective Action Scope of Work: This attachment describes the requirements of the RCRA facility Investigation Workplan that the facility must prepare. Locations of the SWMUs and AOCs are also found here.

Public Participation

IDEM is conducting public participation to ensure all interested parties have an opportunity to comment on the Draft Post-Closure Permit. The Public Comment Period extends from July 31, 2007 thru September 14, 2007. The official public notice was published on July 31, 2007, in The Times, Munster, Indiana. The public notice was also broadcasted over local radio station WJOB.

All comments regarding the Draft Post-Closure Permit must be postmarked by September 14, 2007, (or e-mailed) and addressed to:

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Any interested person may request a public hearing. The request must be in writing and state the nature of the issues to be raised at the public hearing. The Commissioner shall hold a public hearing whenever it is determined, on the basis of requests that a significant degree of public interest exists.

To view a copy of the State Draft Post-Closure Permit, visit the following locations:

IDEM File Room
Room 1201
100 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204

IDEM Northwest Regional Office
Suite 1
8315 Virginia Street
Merrillville, Indiana 46410-9201

East Chicago Public Library
2401 E. Columbus Drive
East Chicago, Indiana 46312-2998

Copies of the Permit Conditions and Fact
Sheet may also be viewed on the IDEM web
site at:

www.IN.gov/idem/permits/land/notices/index.html

For More Information, Contact:

Ruth Jean, IDEM
317/232-3398 or
(800) 451-6027, press 0, request ext. 2-3398
Or e-mail at rjean@idem.IN.gov